

SCRUTINY BOARD (HEALTH)

FRIDAY, 25TH JUNE, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor M Dobson in the Chair
Councillors D Congreve, K Groves and
G Kirkland

CO-OPTEEs: Mr A Giles (Leeds Local Involvement Network)

1 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone present to the first Scrutiny Board (Health) meeting of the 2010/11 municipal year.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Ewens, Harrand, Illingworth, Matthews, A McKenna and E Taylor. Notification had been received that Councillor Groves was attending the meeting as a substitute Member.

4 Minutes - 25th May 2010

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

5 Co-opted Members on Scrutiny Boards

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which sought Members' consideration of the appointment of co-opted members to the Board. Details of current arrangements were contained in the report.

Members discussed arrangements for allocating 2 non-voting co-opted member places to Leeds LINK (to include Arthur Giles and one other) and not, currently, seeking a nomination from Leeds Voice (Health Forum).

RESOLVED –

- (a) That Arthur Giles (Leeds LINK representative) be re-appointed as a non-voting Member of the Board for 2010/11; and
- (b) That Leeds LINK be invited to nominate a second representative to serve as a non-voting co-opted member on the Scrutiny Board (Health) for 2010/11.

(NB Following the conclusion of this item, Mr Giles was invited to formally join the Board as a non-voting co-opted member and contribute to the remainder of the meeting.)

6 Changes to the Council's Constitution in relation to Scrutiny

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which provided the Board with information on recent amendments to the Council's Constitution, as agreed by Council on 27th May 2010, which directly related to and / or made an impact on the work of Scrutiny Boards.

RESOLVED – That the amendments to the Council's Constitution as outlined in the report, be noted.

7 Input into the Board's Work Programme 2010/11 - Sources of Work and Establishing the Board's Priorities

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which provided information and guidance to assist the Board develop its work programme for 2010/11.

Attached for Members' information was a copy of the Board's terms of reference and the Board's annual report (2009/10).

In addition, relevant information from the following key sources was attached to the report to assist Members in developing the Board's work programme for 2010/11:

- Leeds Strategic Plan 2008 -2011 – Executive Summary
- Combined extract from Leeds' Director of Public Health Annual Reports (2008 and 2009) – outlining recommendations for action to reduce health inequalities (2008) and associated progress (2009)
- List of scrutiny inquiries relevant to the Board's portfolio undertaken since 2003
- The Health and Wellbeing Partnership Plan (2009-2012)
- Department of Health – 2009 Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Councillor Yeadon, Executive Member (Adult Health and Social Care) and the following officer and representatives to contribute to the discussion about the Board's work programme:

- John England, Deputy Director of Adult Social Services
- Frank Griffiths, Chair of Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust (LPTF)
- Chris Butler, Chief Executive of Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust (LPTF)

A brief overview of key issues and priorities relevant to the work of the Scrutiny Board (Health) was provided as follows:

Leeds Partnerships Foundation Trust (LPTF)

- Current context
 - Significant national reforms across the NHS – in the context of financial austerity
 - A changing landscape for service commissioners and service providers, with changes to the commissioning framework
 - Entering new ways of working – particular focus on working in partnership and the integration of services (where appropriate and beneficial)
 - Significant challenge to identify priorities.
- Key areas:
 - Re-design of older people services and local implementation of the national dementia strategy
 - Development of Financial Plan to assist with reducing unnecessary costs and ensuring better integration of services
 - Improving individuals' health and well-being with specific focus on those with learning difficulties and mental health needs
 - Making best use of individuals' knowledge and experience to help plan for the future
 - Valuing and developing the workforce
 - Contributing to the development of the role of the Strategic Commissioning Board.

The Chair then invited questions and the main areas of discussion were:

- Recognition of the need to develop collaborative arrangements, especially with local voluntary groups and organisations.
- Acknowledgement of the importance of proper consultation with service users.
- Concern that due to budget pressures, some of the more innovative and creative schemes could be at risk. (It was reported that a cost reduction programme had already started and the Trust was taking an upfront view of the challenges it was facing. Within its financial planning, the Trust was aware of the need to make provision (head-room) to allow for the development of services / areas that may deliver longer-term financial benefits).
- Support for individuals with mental health needs, e.g. investment in partnership approach with Department of Work and Pensions to help individuals back into employment.

Councillor Yeadon, Executive Member (Adult Health and Social Care)

- Need to be realistic about the current context:
 - Challenging times
 - Changing demographics
 - Changing face of Adult Social Care.
- Budgetary pressures, particularly relating to hospital, residential and homecare admission / discharge arrangements.

- Need to improve care for individuals with terminal illnesses, particularly those with dementia.
- Working to ensure equal access to healthcare for all.

John England, Deputy Director of Adult Social Services

- Patient and public engagement and shift to local level accountability.
- Re-organisation of services and focussing on how proposals worked in practice.
- Partnership and services integration.

Members also expressed concern about information contained within the 2009 Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer, relating to 'Winter kills', particularly that mortality in England rises 18%, during the winter months, but other colder countries had smaller increases. Members felt that there was a need for further research on factors contributing to differences in life expectancy across different Wards and different communities in Leeds.

RECOMMENDED – That the report and contributions made during the discussion be taken into account at a future meeting when the Board is finalising its work programme and deciding its priorities.

(Councillor Groves left the meeting at 11.05 am. The Chair advised that the meeting was now inquorate.)

(Mr Giles declared a personal interest in this item as a representative of Leeds LINK.)

8 Kirkstall Joint Service Centre

This item was deferred to the Scrutiny Board meeting in July.

9 Determining the Board's Work Programme 2010/11

This item was deferred to the Scrutiny Board meeting in July.

10 Dates and Times of Future Meetings

RESOLVED – That the following meeting dates be noted and approved:

- 27th July 2010
- 21st September 2010
- 26th October 2010
- 23rd November 2010
- 21st December 2010
- 25th January 2011
- 22nd February 2011
- 22nd March 2011
- 26th April 2011

All meetings on a Tuesday at 10.00 am except 21st December at 2.00 pm
(Pre-Meetings at 9.30 am).

(The meeting concluded at 11.25 am.)